

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 40, 45 and 46, and add new claims 54-58 as indicated in the following list of pending claims.

PENDING CLAIMS

- 1-9. (Cancelled)
10. (Previously Presented) The intravaginal device of claim 40, wherein the distal tip of the guide rail is expandable to snugly fit within the patient's cervical canal.
11. (Previously Presented) The intravaginal device of claim 10, wherein the distal tip of the guide rail is split into bifurcated portions.
12. (Previously Presented) The intravaginal device of claim 11, wherein the bifurcated portions of the distal tip are curved.
13. (Previously Presented) The intravaginal device of claim 12, wherein the curved bifurcated portions of the distal tip have different radii of curvature.
- 14-39. (Cancelled)
40. (Currently Amended) An intravaginal tenaculum-like device for adjusting the position of a female patient's uterine cervix to facilitate intravaginal delivery of a therapeutic or diagnostic instrument, comprising:
- a. an elongated guide rail which has a proximal portion with a proximal end configured to extend out of the patient during the procedure and to allow for the mounting of a medical instrument thereon and a distal portion with a distal tip configured for entry into the patient's cervical canal and which has a ~~slideable~~ movable collar mounted thereon configured to intravaginally

guide a medical instrument over the guide rail to the patient's uterine cervix; [[and]]

- b. a medical instrument movably mounted to the guide rail distal to the movable collar so as to be moved over the guide rail to the patient's uterine cervix by the collar; and

- c. a tissue grasping assembly comprising

- i. a first elongated member which has a proximal section and a distal section with a distal end secured to a distal portion of the guide rail proximal to the distal tip of the guide rail and
- ii. a second elongated member which has a proximal section and a distal section with a tissue grasping element on the distal end and which is pivotally connected to the first elongated member at a pivot point thereon proximally spaced from the distal end of the first elongated member so that the tissue grasping element on the distal end of the second elongated member moves so as to grasp the patient's uterine cervix at a location proximal to the distal end of the guide rail on the same side of the guide rail to which the distal end of the first elongated member is secured when the distal tip of the guide rail is disposed within the patient's cervical canal and the second elongated member is rotated about the pivot point to engage tissue.

41. (Original) The device of claim 40, further comprising a securing element configured to maintain the tissue grasping element in contact with tissue when the distal end of the guide rail is disposed within said cervical canal.

42. (Original) The device of claim 40, wherein the tissue grasping element has a sharp point.

43. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 40, wherein the guide rail is configured to receive a slidable coupling element attached to a medical device which is configured to be moved in a longitudinal direction along the guide rail by the collar to guide the medical device over the guide rail.

44. (Cancelled)

45. (Currently amended) The device of claim ~~[[44]]~~ 40, wherein the guide rail has threads on an exterior portion thereof at a location proximal to where the distal end of the first elongated member is secured to the guide rail and the collar has internal threads configured to operatively engage with the exterior threads and rotation of the collar around a longitudinal axis of the guide rail is effective to provide longitudinal movement of the collar along the guide rail.

46. (Currently Amended) An intravaginal device for delivery of a medical instrument to a female patient's uterine cervix, related tissue or near-by anatomical structure, comprising:

- a. an elongated guide means which has a distal portion with a distal tip, which has a proximal portion with a free proximal end, which has a movable collar and which is configured to receive a medical instrument distal to the collar, ~~and which has a~~ the collar being configured to guide

the medical instrument to the patient's uterine cervix, related tissue or near-by anatomical structure; and

- b. a tissue grasping means secured to the distal portion of the guide means distal to the collar and configured to grasp the patient's uterine cervix, related tissue or near-by anatomical structure ~~to grasp the patient's uterine cervix~~ at a location proximal to the distal tip of the guide means to facilitate delivery of the medical instrument over the guide rail to the patient's uterine cervix.

47-49. (Cancelled)

50. (Previously Presented) The intravaginal device of claim 46, wherein the distal tip of the guide means is expandable to snugly fit within the patient's cervical canal.

51. (Previously Presented) The intravaginal device of claim 50, wherein the expandable distal tip of the guide means is split into bifurcated portions.

52. (Previously Presented) The intravaginal device of claim 51, wherein the bifurcated portions of the guide means are curved.

53. (Previously Presented) The intravaginal device of claim 52, wherein the curved bifurcated portions of the guide means have different radii of curvature.

54. (New) An intravaginal device for delivery of a medical instrument to a female patient's uterine cervix, related tissue or near-by anatomical structure, comprising:

- a. an elongated guide rail which has a distal portion with a distal tip, which has a proximal portion with a free proximal end, which has a movable

collar mounted on the guide rail, which is configured to receive a medical instrument distal to the movable collar, the collar being configured to guide the distally received medical instrument to the patient's uterine cervix, related tissue or near-by anatomical structure; and

- b. a tissue grasping member secured to the distal portion of the guide rail distal to the collar which is configured to grasp the patient's uterine cervix, related tissue or near-by anatomical structure at a location proximal to the distal tip of the guide rail to facilitate delivery of the medical instrument over the guide rail to the patient's uterine cervix.

55. (New) The intravaginal device of claim 54, wherein the distal tip of the guide rail is expandable to snugly fit within the patient's cervical canal.

56. (New) The intravaginal device of claim 55, wherein the expandable distal tip of the guide means is split into bifurcated portions.

57. (New) The intravaginal device of claim 56, wherein the bifurcated portions of the guide rail are curved.

58. (New) The intravaginal device of claim 57, wherein the curved bifurcated portions of the guide rail have different radii of curvature.